

more) and the Fen itself is in fine fettle — probably much better than in the 1920's. Missing is that marvellous feeling of remoteness, of being in a place untended, not conserved. Serengeti not Whipsnade. This is inevitable. Due to the fall in the water table of the surrounding land, the Fen would become scrub woodland if not continuously cleared, and what was in the old days the privilege of the few to visit lonely places has now become the right of many.

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SCHIFFERMUELLERIA SUBAQUILEA (STANTON) ON CAIRNGORM. — It seems that the foodplant of this species is unknown and the rather irregular occurrence of the moth makes it difficult to identify and search likely foodplants in its haunts. Consequently it may be of interest to record that we found specimens on 17th June 1978 at 3,250-3,500 ft. on Cairngorm, Easter Ness, on the shoulder which runs north west down from the restaurant (Nat. grid ref. NJ 003053). The moths were flying in sunshine at about 3.00 p.m. over the short vegetation and there was little wind. The specimens were identified for us by Mr. E. C. Pelham-Clinton to whom we are most grateful. — P. D. HULME and M. R. YOUNG, Aberdeen.

STERRHA VULPINARIA H.-S. (LEP.: STERRHINAE) IN SOUTH DEVON. — On the night of 8th July 1978 a single specimen of *Sterrha vulpinaria* H.-S. came to mercury vapour light near Hopes Nose, Torquay. Only 78 individual macro-lepidoptera were in or around the trap the following morning, representing 28 species none of which were recognised migrants. To my knowledge this is the first record of the species from Devon for a considerable period of time. The species may still be resident therefore in the Torquay area rather than be an immigrant to it. (Ref. A. H. Dobson, *Ent. Rec.*, 68: 121). — ALAN KENNARD, Chancery Cottage, 79 Old High Street, Headington, Oxford.

ECTOEDEMA QUINQUELLA (BEDELL) IN GREATER LONDON. — This species is known only from south-east England, north-west France and Belgium and is often sought by continental collectors on their visits to this country. It occurs in a few isolated but often populous colonies which are usually confined to two or three trees; this is the species for which Meyrick once counted 123 mines in a single oak-leaf. Microlepidopterists may be interested to hear of a colony within easy reach of London where the population in 1978 was to be counted probably in millions rather than thousands. It is at Belhus Wood (TQ 565824), a "public access" wood belonging to the Essex County Council. The part of the wood where *E. quinquella* occurs is immediately south of the car-park.

Collectors used to visit Madingley in Cambridgeshire for this species, but one of the two trees on which it was found has been felled; the colony I am now recommending is therefore to be preferred. A visit should not be made before the leaves begin to fall as the foliage is mostly out of reach. — A. M. EMMET, Labrey Cottage, Victoria Gardens, Saffron Walden, Essex. 8.ii.1979.